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SECURITY INFORMATION

FORM 10

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

TOPIC Military Units and Installations at Mar. Lazne, Karlovy Vary, 25X1

Podborany, Tepla, Becov nad Teplou, and Kadan

DATE OF CONTENT prior to 6 August 1951

DATE PREPARED 4 October 1951

25X1

Marianske Lazne:

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1. Prior to 6 August 1951, the Hamrniky Barracks southwest of Marianske Lazne (N 50/P 56) was occupied by a unit which wore red service color. The installation included 10 one-story buildings and was surrounded by a wooden fence, 2 meters high. The ranking officer was a staff captain. A unit of 150 to 200 EM equipped with rifles, submachine guns, light machine guns and heavy machine guns was repeatedly seen leaving the installation. Five guns of about 70 mm, having rubber tires and towed by Praga-RN trucks, were observed in the barracks yard. The motor vehicles in the installation were estimated at about 30 trucks and several sedans. There was also a stable with draught-horses. Rumors said that additional garages were to be constructed. (1)
 2. The SNB post headquarters was located in the town hall, in front of which 4 or 5 sedans [redacted] were regularly parked. In 1950, the Astoria, Brussel, and Pacific Hotels on Stalinovo namesti in the northern sector of Marianske Lazne were requisitioned for military purposes, and guards with submachine guns were posted at their entrances. The Flora Hotel on Stalinovo namesti and the Mars Casino on Benesovo tr. had been requisitioned as early as 1948 and were used as convalescent homes for officers' families. In April 1951, a rumor said that the village of Klimentov (Klimentendorf), 3 km west-southwest of Marianske Lazne, would be cleared of civilians for the establishment of military installations there.

Karlovy Vary.

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3. In late July 1951, an iron radio tower, about 35 meters high, was observed west-northwest of Karlovy Vary (N 51/P 69), on the west side of a road running south from St. Roke. An L-shaped two-story building and a four-story dwelling house were located

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near the radio tower, and the whole installation was surrounded by a wire fence, 2 meters high. Three SIB men with a dog were seen in front of the two-story building. It was said that the radio station was put into operation in early 1951.

Podborany.

4. From 1 to 14 July 1951, soldiers wearing red and black service colors were observed in the billeting area situated on both sides of the road to Buscovice (Puschwitz) (N 51/L 09), west-southwest of Podborany (N 51/L 09). The billeting area contained not less than 50 low brick barracks buildings. About 20 tanks, about 6 meters long and with the main guns without muzzle brakes, were parked in the barracks yard. Six tanks were seen leaving the installation almost daily toward Podborany or Karlovy Vary. In addition to the tanks, numerous Praga-RN and RND trucks were parked in the billeting area.

Nesto Tepla.

5. In June 1951, the cloister about 2 km southeast of Nesto Tepla (Tepl) (N 50/P 66) was occupied by soldiers who wore red service color. Some trucks and horse-drawn vehicles were observed in the yard. (2)

Becov nad Teplou.

6. In May 1951, a fuel dump was under construction on the southern side of the road to Nova Ves (Neudorf) (N 51/P 57), about 3 km west of Becov nad Teplou (Petschau) (N 51/P 67). A one-story building and a gasoline pump were completed. Several excavations, 4 or 5 meters deep, were observed on both sides of the pump. The site was guarded by a sentry, and could be entered only with a special pass. A parking place was observed about 1 km south of Nova Ves, where 50 to 100 armored vehicles, including some covered with canvas, were standing. (3)

Radan.

7. In May 1951, soldiers wearing red service color were seen in the barracks installation on the southeastern perimeter of Radan (N 51/K 91). The installation consisted of about 3 one-story brick buildings. No heavy weapons were observed. Soldiers there said that they belonged to a unit of politically unreliaables who were employed for construction work at the installation. About 20 pontoons and a large quantity of beams were stored in the billeting area. Draft horses were seen in a stable. (4)

Comments.

- (1) The 50th Inf Regt of the 13th Ind Div is carried in Marianske Lazne. [redacted] observed a component unit of this regiment. [redacted] The rather high number of motor vehicles is indicative of a partially motorized unit.

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- (2) The replacement unit of the 50th Inf Regt is carried in Pesto Tepia.
- (3) Nova Ves is situated near the Kaiserswald troop training grounds. The armored vehicles observed may, therefore, have belonged to a unit on maneuvers there.
- (4) The information confirms a report that prior to April 1951 an engineer unit was in Kadan.

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